

# ACCOUNT

## EXECUTION

### Duke of Monmouth,

On Wednesday the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 1685 on Tower-hill

TOGETHER  
With a Paper Signed by Himself that morning in the Tower,  
in the presence of the Lords Bishops of Ely and Bath

The Copy of His Letter to His Grace the Duke of Devonshire  
Ringwood in Hampshire the 8<sup>th</sup> of July.

**T**HE Late Duke of Monmouth, when taken from the Tower to the Scaffold, attended by the Bishop of Ely, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Dr. Hooper, which four the King was graciously pleased to send him, as his Assistants to prepare him for Death, and the late Duke himself intreated all four of them, to accompany him to the place of Execution, and to continue with him to the last. The two Bishops going in the Lieutenant's Coach with him to the Barrs, made seasonable and devout Applications to him all the way; and one of them desired him not to be surprized, if they in the very last upon the Scaffold, renewed those Exhortations, which they had so often repeated before.

At his first coming upon the Scaffold, he looked for the Executioner, and seeing him, said, *Is this the man to do the business?* Do your work well.

Then the late Duke of Monmouth began to speak, some one or other of the Assistants, during the whole time, applying themselves to him.

Monmouth, *I shall say but very little; I come to die; I die a Protestant of the Church of England.*

Assistants, *My Lord, if you be of the Church of England, you must acknowledge the Doctrine of Non-resistance to be True.*

M. *If I acknowledge the Doctrine of the Church of England in general, that includes all.*

A. *Sir, it is fit to own that Doctrine particularly, with respect to your Case. Here he was much urged about that Doctrine of Non-resistance, but he repeated in effect his first Answer.*

Then he began as if he was about to make a pre-meditated Speech, in this manner.

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*

*My Lord, I have been often told, (I. e. in the Tower)*  
*that you are in this Place.*



M. I do not attribute it to my own nature, for I am fearful, as other Men are, but I have not the Power, as you would say by my Face, but there is something within me which does it, for I am sure I shall go to God.

A. My Lord, before upon good Conscience. The first repent you of all your Sins known or unknown, confessed or unconfessed, of all the Sins which might proceed from you in Judgement?

M. In general for all. I humbly ask my Lord.

A. God Almighty of his infinite Mercy forgive you. Here the great number of Spectators, here the Church-worshippers, they represent the Great City, and in speaking to him you speak to the whole City; make some satisfaction by turning your Crime before them.

Then he went to solemn Commendatory Prayers, which continued for a good space, the late Duke of Monmouth and the Company kneeling, and joining in them with great fervency.

Prayers being ended, before he and the four who assisted him, were risen from their knees, he was again earnestly exhorted to a true and thorough Repentance.

After they were risen up, he was exhorted to pray for the King; and was asked, Whether he did not desire to send some dutiful Message to His Majesty, and to recommend his Wife and Children to his Majesty's Favour.

M. What harm have they done? do it if you please, I pray for him, and for all men, his Wife and Children to his Majesty's Favour.

M. What harm have they done? do it if you please, I pray for him, and for all men.

A. Then the Versicles were repeated.

O Lord shew thy Mercy upon us.

M. [He made the Response.] And grant us thy Salvation.

A. [He followed.] O Lord save the King.

M. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

A. Sir, do you not pray for the King with us? [The Versicle was again repeated.]

O Lord save the King.

M. [After some pause he answered.] Amen.

Then he began to address himself to the King, and the words he said were in this manner: Cap, &c. and at the beginning of his addressing it was said to him on this manner:

A. My Lord, you have been bred a Soldier, you would do a generous Christian thing, if you please to go to the Rail, and speak to the Soldiers, and say, That here you stand a sad example of Rebellion, and entreat them and the People to be Loyal, and obedient to the King.

M. I have said, I will make no Speeches, I will make no Speeches, I come to die.

A. My Lord, ten words would be enough.

Then calling his Servant, and giving him something like a Tooth-pick-Case, here (said he) give this to the Person, to whom you are to deliver the other things.

M. (To the Executioner.) Here are six Guineys for you; Pray do your Business well; don't serve me as you did my Lord Russel; I have heard you struck him three or four times.

Here (to his Servant) take the remaining Guineys and give them to him, if he does his Work well.

Exec. I hope I shall.

M. If you strike.

During this time of addressing and standing in the place there were used by those who assisted him, divers Ejaculations proper at that time, and much of the 51st Psalm was repeated, and particularly, Deliver me from Blood-Guiltiness, O God, Thou God, &c.

Then he lay down, and soon after he raised himself upon his Elbow, and said to the Executioner, Prethee lay the seal the Axe, he felt the Edge, and said, I fear it is not sharp enough.

Executioner. It is sharp enough, and heavy enough.

Then he laid down again.

During this space many pious Ejaculations were used by those that assisted him with great fervency. Ex. Gr. God accept your repentance, God accept your Repentance, God accept your IMPERFECT Repentance, My Lord, God accept your GENERAL Repentance, God Almighty shew his OMNIPOTENT Mercy upon you. Further into thy Hands we commend his Spirit, &c. Lord Jesus, receive his Soul.

Then

Then the Executioner proceeded to do his Office,

This is a true account, Witness our Hands,

Francis Ely,

Thomas Tansley,

William Gostling,

Shelton,

Thomas Bath and Wells,

George Hanger,

Peter Pauling,

Shelton,

A Copy of the Paper, to which the late Duke of Monmouth referred himself in the Discourse he held upon the Scaffold.

I Declare, That the Title of King was forfeit upon me, and That it was very much contrary to my Opinion, when I was Proclaimed. For the Satisfaction of the World, I do declare, That the late King told me, He was never Married to my Mother. Having declared this, I hope that the King, who is now, will not let my Children suffer on this account. And to this I put my Hand this fifteenth day of July, 1685.

Declared by himself, and Signed in the Presence of Us,

Francis Ely,

Thomas Tansley,

William Gostling,

Shelton,

A Copy of the Duke of Monmouth's Letter to the King, Dated from Ringwood the 8th of July, 1685.

SIR,

YOur Majesty may think, that the Misfortune I am now under, makes me make this Application to you; but I do assure your Majesty, it is the Remorse I now have in me, of the wrong I have done you in several things, and now, in taking Arms against you. For my taking up Arms, it never was in my Thought since the King died. The Prince and Princess of Orange will be Witness for me, of the Assurance I gave them, that I would never stir against you; but my Misfortune was such, as to meet with some Horrid People, who made me believe, that it was a Shame and a Sin before God, not to do it. But, Sir, I will not trouble your Majesty at present with many things, I could say for my self, that I am sure would move your Compassion; the chief end of this Letter, being only to beg of you, That I may have that Happiness, as to speak to your Majesty. For I have that to say to you, Sir, that I hope may give you a long and happy Reign, I am sure, Sir, when you hear me, you will be convinced of the Zeal I have for your Preservation, and how heartily I repent of what I have done. I can say no more to your Majesty now; but this Letter must be seen by those that keep me. Therefore, Sir, I shall make an end, in begging of your Majesty to believe so well of me, That I would rather die a thousand Deaths, than excuse anything I have done, if I did not really think myself the most in the wrong, that ever any Man was, and had not from the bottom of my Heart an abhorrence for those that put me upon it, and for the Action it self. I hope, Sir, God Almighty will strike your Heart with Mercy and Compassion for me, as he has done mine with the abhorrence of what I have done. Therefore I hope, Sir, I may live to show you how Zealous I shall ever be for your Service; and could I say but one Word in this Letter, you would be convinced of it; but I am of that consequence, that I dare not do so. Therefore, Sir, I do beg of you once more, to let me speak to you, for then you will see how much I shall ever be Your Majesties most Humble and Dutiful.

MONMOUTH,

London, Printed for Robert Horne, John Baker, and Benjamin Tooke, 1685.

Edinburgh, Re-Printed by the Heir of Andrew Anderson, Printer to His most Sacred Majesty, Anno DOM. 1685.